

# **YO! Denver**

## **Work Readiness through**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM**

#### Criteria:

- Member of the Youth Opportunity program, ages 14-21
- Motivated/willing to work
- Entry at Level I, II or III will be based on evaluation of previous experience
- Activities must be performed in groups and benefit the community

#### **LEVEL I: Mandatory for all participants by 4/03**

Projected Numbers: 1400 participants

#### Goals

- Report to the job - show up on time
- Participate - work in a team situation
- Contribute to community
  - Understand how to give back
  - Why are we here?
  - Reflection component

#### Length

- Single session, 1 day event, minimum of 5 hours over the next year

#### Sample Activities

- Adopt a Spot w/ Keep Denver Beautiful
- Earth Day event
- Food Drive
- Flower Bed Maintenance
- Individually designed projects
  - Upon completion of Project Plan form

#### Incentive

- YO tee shirt
- Lunch
- Raffle prizes (YO! participants & coaches)
- Presidential Student Service Challenge Award
  - Completion of 100 hours within 12 months
- Prerequisite to enter Level II

## **LEVEL II: Exemption based on qualifying experience and/or training**

Projected Numbers: ~900 participants

### Goals

- Complete Level I
- Report to the job - show up on time
- Participate - work in a team situation
- Contribute to community
  - Understand how to give back
  - Community needs assessment and problem solving

In addition:

- Gain specific skills (job readiness)
  - Workplace skills, journals
  - Complete a resume
  - Referrals to Curtis Park and Denver Works for Job Readiness Training
- Develop content and process
  - Project planning, development, execution and evaluation

### Length

- Minimum of 4 weeks, 2 times a week and 2-3 weekends

### Activities

- Employability training
- Community service projects
- Service learning classes

### Incentive

- Individual resume
- Certificate of completion
- Letter of recommendation
  - Gain eligibility for Level III upon satisfactory completion
- Advance to Level II
- Earn points toward entry into Level III
- Qualify for Business Internship Work Experience
- Raffle prizes
- YO! Day Planner/Calendar
- Assistance in job placement (unsubsidized)

### **LEVEL III**

#### Goals

- Report to the job - show up on time
- Participate - work in a team situation
- Contribute to community
  - Understand how to give back
  - Community needs assessment and problem solving
- Gain specific skills
  - Workplace skills, resume, journals
- Develop content and process
  - Project planning, development, execution and evaluation

#### In addition:

- Understand the project within context
  - Enduring value, industry standards.
- Accountability
  - On-time, on-budget

#### Length

- 8 weeks, 4 hours a day, 5 days per week
- Year round

#### Activities

- Client's projects with Arts Street
  - Murals, sculptures, public theatre, magazine, music performance, web site, graphic arts, silkscreen jobs
- Summer job program with Parks & Recreation
- Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) through MOWD
- Youth employment program with Curtis Park Recreation Center
- DAYS
- Mi Casa

#### Incentive

- Hourly wage (\$6.59/hour)
- Earn points toward entry into *paid* Business Internship Work Experience

